



TITLE OF FELLOWSHIP	Spine Fellowship - Bay of Plenty	
Chief Supervisor	David Bartle	
Contact Details	Name	David Bartle
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	Website	www.orthocentre.co.nz
Co-supervisor (if applicable)	Mr David Adern, Mr Neal Singleton	
Back up Supervisor	As Above	
Length of Fellowship	6 - 12 Months	
Initial start date	January 2025	
Institution(s)	Tauranga Public Hospital, Grace Hospital	
Sub Specialty (ies)	Spine	
Education Goals and Characteristics	To provide post-fellowship, sub-specialty spine training. Please see below for further details.	
Requirements for Fellowship Applicants	FRACS qualification or similar	
How is the Fellowship being funded?	Industry funded through Grace Hospital	
How to apply (where do applicants send enquiries)	Please submit any applications to the above email address.	

Description of Fellowship

Overall Objective:

To further develop clinical, professional and technical expertise in spine surgery through close involvement with acute and planned care patient management through the Tauranga Public and Grace Hospitals.

Duration of Fellowship:

The fellowship will typically run for 6 months although a 12 month duration can be considered under special circumstances.

Training Faculty:

The training will take place at Tauranga Public and Grace Hospitals with oversight by Mr David Adern, Mr Neal Singleton and Mr David Bartle. Additional opportunities of shorter observerships during this time will also be permitted.

On call:

The fellow will be rostered to be on call for spine acute

Specific Objectives:

By the end of the fellowship it is expected that the following competencies will be achieved:

Clinical expertise

- Demonstrate understanding in the assessment of acute and longstanding spinal conditions
- Develop advanced level of knowledge and clinical acumen in the interpretation of clinical signs and investigations
- Develop evidence based and context specific management algorithms for common spinal conditions
- Provide comprehensive non-operative management
- Provide appropriate surgical aftercare

Professional expertise

- Further increase leadership skills relating to the care of patients with spinal concerns
- Be involved with enhanced patient assessment pathways
- Be involved in clinical research and presentations
- Participate in departmental spine teaching

Technical expertise

- Be able to undertake detailed planning of a range of surgical procedures
- Perform a lumbar discectomy independently
- Perform a safe lumbar decompression as primary operator
- Perform key steps of an anterior cervical discectomy and fusion
- Perform key steps with posterior cervical spine approaches and interventions
- Perform key steps with thoracolumbar fracture stabilisation
- Assist in complex spinal cases, taking an active role in spinal instrumentation including thoracic/ lumbar pedicle screws and interbody placement (posterior/ anterior/ lateral)